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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR Ingle DATE TYPED 02/12/05 HB _____

SHORT TITLE Underserved Area Independent Living Services SB 493

ANALYST Weber

APPROPRIATION

Appropriation Contained		Estimated Additional Impact		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY05	FY06	FY05	FY06		
	\$1,000.0			Recurring	General fund

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

REVENUE

Estimated Revenue		Subsequent Years Impact	Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY05	FY06			
	\$900.0		Recurring	Federal

(Parenthesis () Indicate Revenue Decreases)

Relates to HB 11

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From

Division of Vocational Rehabilitation

Department of Health

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

Senate Bill 493 appropriates \$1 million from the general fund to the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation for the purpose of expanding independent living centers and improving outreach and other services in underserved counties and counties not currently receiving independent living services.

Significant Issues

The Department of Health reports independent living is a non-medical model of services that en-

ables people with disabilities to achieve the highest level of self-sufficiency and control over their own lives. Centers for Independent Living in New Mexico have a potential client base of approximately 300,000 adults. 25% of adults surveyed in the Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System Surveys of 1998-2000 identified themselves as having disabilities (Department of Health Office of Disability and Health "Disability in New Mexico Report, 2001").

The DVR annual report notes independent living services are provided by centers for independent living in Santa Fe, Las Cruces, Farmington and Roswell and offices in Alamogordo, Las Vegas, Gallup and Socorro. The organization successfully advocated for new funds to expand services in Lincoln and Otero counties and to improve services in rural areas generally. Ninety-five percent of the state's population lives in the service area of the Centers for Independent Living.

The Division of Vocational Rehabilitation reports.

- Independent living services are crucial to individuals with disabilities. Some of the array of services offered are:
 - Support to improve independence and self-advocacy,
 - Coordination of services in a logical, effective plan
 - Improvements to living conditions/situations
 - Social adjustment to disabling conditions
 - Support in accessing disability related services
 - Support in accessing medical services
 - Support in accessing social program services
 - Support in accessing educational, training, and vocational services
 - Support in accessing services for basic living needs

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The appropriation of \$1 million contained in this bill is a recurring expense to the general fund . Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of FY06 shall revert to the general fund.

PERFORMANCE IMPLICATIONS

Contract performance requirements should be required to help access the success of the expansion.

TECHNICAL ISSUES

Consideration should be given to a concise definition "underserved counties and counties not currently receiving independent living services." Using this definition any county may be eligible and this may not be the intent of the bill.

ANA/rs